

Applic. No.: 10/616,113
Amdt. Dated December 20, 2005
Reply to Office action of September 21, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-22 remain in the application. Claims 1, 4, and 19 have been amended.

In the section entitled "Specification" on page 2 of the above-identified Office action, the specification has been objected to because of an informality. Appropriate correction has been made.

In the section entitled "Claim Rejections - 35 USC 102" on pages 2-8 of the above-mentioned Office action, claims 1-5, 7, and 19 have been rejected as being anticipated by Stoyko (US 5,532,427) under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b); claims 1-7 and 19 have been rejected as being anticipated by Kaiserswerth et al. (US 3,885,084) under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b); and claims 1-5 and 7-22 have been rejected as being anticipated by McMiller et al. (US 6,194,653) under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b).

The rejections have been noted and claims 1 and 19 have been amended in an effort to even more clearly define the invention of the instant application. Support for the changes is found in Fig. 3 and the corresponding description of the specification.

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Before discussing the prior art in detail, it is believed that a brief review of the invention as claimed, would be helpful.

Claims 1 and 19 call for, inter alia:

at least first and second housing parts detachably connected to one another at a transition, said first and second housing parts each having end surfaces fitting with one another to spread electrical contact on a largest possible surface area therebetween, each of said end surfaces of said first and second housing parts having at least a first and a second corresponding bend in order to form an interlocked u-shaped profile.

Stoyko discloses an electrically conductive joint and a method of forming a hollow housing out of a steel plated metal. A magnetic shielding for electrical components should be achieved by that housing. The housing disclosed by Stoyko is made out of one steel plate and the end parts of the steel plate are bent and compressed together into a form of a joint wherein electrically conductive surfaces are in face-to-face contact providing continuity of electrical conductivity. The electrically conductive joint disclosed by Stoyko is neither detachable nor is it made of a first and a second housing part.

Kaiserswerth et al. disclose a first and a second housing part that are connected at the end surfaces of the first and second

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housing part and are fitted together with a bolt or a screw. A contact spring is located between the end surfaces to achieve electrical contact between the end surfaces of the housing parts. Each of the housing parts has an u-shaped end configuration in a way that one leg of the u-shaped configuration is shortened for forming a short second flank. The two housing parts are fitted together at the bottom side of the u-shaped configuration to form two free edges. By virtue of this, these flanks are opposite to each other and a spring clamp is put over these flanks to achieve additional electromagnetic isolation. Kaiserswerth et al. do not disclose a first and a second corresponding bend in order to form an interlocked u-shaped profile, as recited in amended claims 1 and 19 of the instant application. In addition, the arrangement disclosed by Kaiserswerth et al. is not detachable.

McMiller et al. disclose a housing made out of steel plate metal having a first and a second housing part each of them having end surfaces overlapping one another to spread electrical contact there between. The first and the second housing part disclosed by McMiller et al. are detachably connected but do not form a first and a second corresponding bend in order to form a parallel interlocked u-shaped profile.

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Furthermore, there is only one corresponding bend between the first and the second housing part.

In order to achieve an effective EMI shielding between a first and a second housing part where the first and the second housing part should be detachable, a combination of McMiller et al. and Kaiserswerth et al. would lead to a housing where the first and the second parts are fitted together with bolts. This has the disadvantage that the two housing parts are not detachable. Tools have to be used to open the bolts or the screws.

A combination of McMiller et al. and Stoyko would lead to a housing where the first and the second housing parts are joined together by bending and compressing the bend. This has the disadvantage that the two housing parts are undetachable when combined.

The invention of the instant application has the advantages that the housing parts are detachable in a very simple way and additionally that the EMI shielding is very effective because an electromagnetic wave will fizzle out in the "labyrinth" that is built by the u-shaped profile.

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It is accordingly believed to be clear that none of the references, whether taken alone or in any combination, either show or suggest the features of claims 1 and 19. Claims 1 and 19 are, therefore, believed to be patentable over the art and since all of the dependent claims are ultimately dependent on claims 1 or 19, they are believed to be patentable as well.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-22 are solicited.

In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, counsel would appreciate a telephone call so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out.

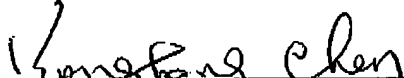
If an extension of time for this paper is required, petition for extension is herewith made. Please charge any fees which might be due with respect to 37 CFR Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to

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the Deposit Account of Lerner and Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-
1099.

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